

Amendments to the Specification – Page 6

Please replace the paragraph on page 6 in the specification which begins on line 16 with the following revised paragraph:

Column ~~12~~ 14 includes four angularly (orthogonally) disposed planar faces 14a, 14b, 14c, 14d which face beams 16, 18, 20, 22, respectively. The illustrative right angles which exist between adjacent pairs of column faces are referred to herein as known angles. It should be understood that while right-angles are pictured herein, other-value “known angles” could be the case. The I-beams shown include upper and lower, horizontally planar, vertically spaced flanges, such as upper and lower flanges 16a, 16b, respectively, in beam 16, which are joined to the beam’s upright planar central web, such as web 16c which joins flanges 16a, 16b.

Amendments to the Specification – Page 8

Please replace the paragraph on page 8 in the specification which begins on line 5 with the following revised paragraph:

According to the present invention, and continuing this discussion now just with reference to two of the orthogonally adjacent outer-collar plates, such as plates 30a, 30d, and even more focussedly with regard to the adjacent, lateral, vertical margins of these plates, each such margin is provided with groups of angularly disposed, vertically spaced groups of through-bores which open to enlarged, stepped cross-section, outer coaxial sockets, or chambers. In the relevant lateral margin of plate 30a, such four through-bores and associated sockets, also called through-passages herein, are shown at 32, 34, 36, 38, with through-bore-and-socket 32 being the uppermost one, and through-bore-and-socket 38 being the lowermost one. Similarly, in the relevant lateral margin of plate 30d, four such through-bores and associated sockets are shown at 40, 42, 44, 46, with throughbore-and-socket 40 being the uppermost one, and through-bore-and-socket 46 being the lowermost one. As can be clearly seen in Figs. 1B, and 2-67, inclusive, through-passages 32, 38, 40, 46 are positioned to lie very closely adjacent the upper and lower flanges of the particular respective I-beams to which their associated inner collar plates are welded, and they lie just within the vertical boundaries of the dimension D_1 mentioned above, and just immediately within weld-associated lines L_1 and L_2 . This is an important arrangement in accordance with the present invention.